

day, but the cold will not be so great as it was yesterday. The wave will not be of long duration.

The oldest inhabitants were not satisfied with Mr. Dunn's quarter of a century record of the weather, and drew on their memories for colder spells than that of yesterday. They said that in and before the sixties they remembered days that quite eclipsed it in severity. They cited, too, the Winters when the East River was frozen over, and said that it would have to be a very cold day indeed when 1896 could repeat that achievement. Mr. Dunn said in reply to these old weather sharps' observations that he had no doubt that the Winters of the past were severer than those of recent years. He, however, did not recall any day that was colder than yesterday. In regard to the freezing over of the East River, he said that this was in all probability due to longer spells of cold weather than New York has since experienced. If yesterday's coldest point had been maintained for any length of time the East River would again have been frozen over.

ANOTHER COLDER DAY UNEARTHED.
There is another weather man of note in the metropolis. He is Dr. Draper, and he has his den on the top floor of the Arsenal in Central Park. There he takes weather notes for the Meteorological Observatory. He has been keeping his weather eye officially open since 1868. In that year he succeeded Dr. O. Morris, who from 1855 to 1868 had taken observations for the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Morris for a number of years made his observations in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, on the site now occupied by Columbia College, and afterward carried on his work at Cooper Union. He had in his possession records of the weather from 1822 to 1855, taken by United States army officers at Fort Columbus. After Dr. Morris's death this record and the results of his own observations from 1855 to 1868 passed into the hands of Dr. Draper, who therefore can tell the coldest days during any year within almost the past three-quarters of a century.

Dr. Draper looked up the records yesterday. He found just three days when the mercury fell below 6 degrees. In January, 1863, it reached 13 degrees below zero. Once, in February, 1855, and again in February, 1860, it was 7 degrees below. Yesterday's lowest record, in his observatory was at 7 a. m., when it stood 5 degrees below. Dr. Draper was asked how it happened that Mr. Dunn's record was lower than his own. He said it was explained by Mr. Dunn's lofty eury. The higher up in the air one went the colder it became. That was why the Weather Bureau went the Meteorological Observatory in the Park one better.

IT FROZE THE ELEVATED OIL LAMPS.
Travel in this and neighboring cities was not impeded by the cold snap, but it was rendered decidedly uncomfortable. As is usually the case, the trolley and elevated cars were like ice houses a-whel. Such heat as was given out was hardly perceptible. The passengers shivered and shook, blew upon their fingers, stamped their feet and grew indignant. The only warmth noticeable was in the criticisms upon the companies. To add to the discomfort of those who were compelled to travel before daybreak, the cold proved too much for the oil used by the elevated roads in its trains. The passengers got aboard the gloomy cars, and when they asked for an explanation were told that the oil had frozen. At least this was the answer given by ninety trainmen out of every hundred. One who spoke more frankly than the rest said:

"It's not the oil, but the water in the oil that's frozen."

In the streets up to 8 a. m. pedestrians suffered greatly from the cold. It was a common sight to see young and old spurring to keep up their circulation. As the sun got in its work blue noses were less noticeable, and the scurrying of pedestrians was not so great.

PEDESTRIANS DELIGHTED.
The cold snap delighted the skaters, and the park policemen were overwhelmed with questions all day long about the condition of the ponds. The skaters had to put up with temporary disappointment, for the park officials announced that the ice was not firm enough to permit persons upon any of the ponds or lakes last night. It is not at all likely that skating will be permitted upon any of the ponds, even though the weather continue as cold as predicted. It will take fully another twenty-four hours' freezing to make the lake, in the officials' opinion, perfectly safe. With Van Cortlandt and Crotona lakes it is different. There may be skating upon them this afternoon or to-night. They are more exposed than Central Park Lake, and therefore the ice on them forms more rapidly. Captain Collins, chief of police, said yesterday that the prospects for the best skating of the year seemed good.

JOHANNA DID NOT SUFFER.
The beasts and birds in Central Park Menagerie were not affected by the cold snap. Many of them are accustomed to freezing weather, and there were few permitted to remain in the open air. The animals most sensitive to the cold are the monkeys, and in this house the thermometer was kept at an average of 70 degrees. Johanna was happy under these conditions, as she looked at herself in a looking-glass and drank from a bottle of port wine.

An interesting sight was witnessed by passengers on the Brooklyn, New Jersey and Staten Island ferries yesterday morning. The water was so much warmer than the air that steam arose from the surface of the water, to the height of from eight to twelve feet. There being scarcely any wind, the steam became like a fog enveloping the various craft on the water.

HOW THE STATE SUFFERED.
Cooperstown, N. Y., Feb. 17.—Last night was the coldest night of the Winter. The mercury dropped to 36 degrees below zero here.

Mt. Vernon, N. Y., Feb. 17.—This is the coldest day ever recorded in this city. At 3 o'clock this morning the thermometer recorded 15 degrees below zero, a drop of 75 degrees in fifteen hours. All the coast towns report about the same temperature.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 17.—The thermometer registered 16 below here at 3 o'clock this morning.

Monticello, N. Y., Feb. 17.—The thermometer registered 20 degrees below zero at Monticello this morning, and 30 degrees at Monticello Valley. This is the lowest since 1888, when the mercury fell to 30 degrees below.

Saratoga, N. Y., Feb. 17.—The temperature 1 mile vicinity reached a lower mark within the past twenty-four hours than any previous time this Winter. This morning the mercury registered 20 below zero in Saratoga, and at Saratoga Lake, 25 below.

Malone, N. Y., Feb. 17.—This morning was the most trying of the Winter, on account of the fact that with a stiff breeze blowing the thermometer ranged from 28 to 31 degrees below zero at this point. The mercury touched 32 degrees below at Mountain View, 33 at Brimston and 40 at Mechanic Lake.

Rondout, N. Y., Feb. 17.—Several inches of ice were added to that on the river by the cold wave, and ice men now feel confident of harvesting a large crop before the season is over. Sixty teams were ordered to Stockport to work in harvesting, and they left for that place on the early ferryboat this morning. Three times the usual number of teams were taken in the ferryboat, and the trip across the river. At Stockport the ice is 6 inches thick and is about twelve inches high.

Down the river work was a

mened this morning. The Knickerbocker Ice Company had large forces of men at work at its houses at Boopos and Staatsburg.

Saratoga Lake, N. Y., Feb. 17.—The mercury dropped to 49 degrees below zero last night, the lowest point on record in Saratoga Lake. Trails are reported five and six hours late.

Binghamton, N. Y., Feb. 17.—As a result of the cold wave, the mercury dropped here 22 degrees in thirty-six hours, reaching 29 degrees below zero at 5 o'clock this morning. Rochester, N. Y., Feb. 17.—The mercury fell to 12 below zero here this morning. At Palmyra the thermometer registered 28 below.

Freezing on Long Island.
Sunday night was the coldest this season on Long Island. The thermometer registered six degrees below in Jamaica at 6 a. m., while at Mineola it was five degrees below, and in Hicksville the mercury was eight degrees below. In Port Jefferson the thermometer was six degrees below. The cold snap caused the Great South Bay to freeze over Sunday night.

Terrible Tale from Lambertville.
Lambertville, N. J., Feb. 17.—Thomas Jones, who lives at New Hope, while on his way here this morning, had his hands frozen. He was attempting to thaw them in an effort to restore the circulation of blood, when the fingers on his right hand dropped off. Doctors say his hand will have to be amputated.

Mail Carrier Lost His Ear.
Lambertville, N. J., Feb. 17.—Charles Taylor, the mail carrier between here and Brownsville, Pa., four miles south, had his ears frozen this morning, and while rubbing them both dropped off in his hands.

Brakeman Blown from His Car.
Auburn, N. Y., Feb. 17.—Walter A. Collins, brakeman on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, was blown from the top of a car in the blizzard at Croton yesterday and died beneath the wheels.

COLD CAUSED HIS DEATH.

Albert Hockenjos Fell into the Araway of His Father's Residence and Died.

The dead body of Albert Hockenjos was found in the araway of No. 179 East Ninety-sixth street at 7:15 a. m. yesterday by a boy who was delivering milk. Hockenjos, who was twenty-one years old and the son of Janitor Hockenjos, had apparently been stunned by a fall and had frozen to death at the door of his father's residence. Before the body had been identified Patrolman Bliss had it carried to the East One Hundred and Fourth Street Station House. There the father found it.

Young Hockenjos left home on Sunday night to attend a party. At midnight, when the rest of the family were asleep, he had not returned. His father believes that he returned early yesterday morning, but having no key to the street door, and the door bell having been broken, he started to descend into the cellar, hoping to gain entrance in that way. The house is the second from Third avenue and stands on a steep grade. The araway is about twelve feet deep at its furthest point from Third avenue. It is surrounded by an iron railing two and a half feet high.

It is believed that young Hockenjos lost his balance and fell headlong over the railing into the araway. His body when

found, was resting on its left side, with his head toward Third avenue. His face and the left side of his head were badly bruised. The police do not think that these injuries were severe enough to kill him. They say that the fall undoubtedly stunned him, and that death was due to exposure. The young man sometimes drank to excess, and his father fears that he was intoxicated when he came home yesterday morning. He was employed as a porter in a dry goods store.

VERBECK MAKES HIS DEBUT.
Son of the Great French Illusionist Does Some Clever Tricks.

Chevalier Verbeck, who has been extensively announced as the great French conjurer and sleight of hand performer, gave the first of a series of performances in the Casino yesterday afternoon before an audience that as limited as to numbers, but demonstrative in appreciation. His performance included many clever tricks which have, however, been seen here before, yet they commanded attention from the deftness with which they were executed.

The best of his series was undoubtedly the disappearing watch. A timepiece dropped in an umbrella cover by a gentleman in the audience, was made to appear on the crown of a silk hat at which the watch was thrown. An original illusion entitled, "The Spider, the Fly and the Rose," was amusing and clever. An artificial insect travelled over a mirror, picking out numbers and cards selected by people in the audience, devoured an artificial fly and sought refuge in a rose which moved over the polished surface at the will of the performer.

The hypnotic and mind reading seance, in which Verbeck was assisted by Mlle. Du Quay, was a variation of the feat performed by Lorenz and Kennedy and other conjurers, and evoked hearty plaudits. Gordon, a rifle shot expert, gave exhibitions of his skill between Verbeck's acts. His greatest performance consisted of playing "Believe me, if all those endearing young charms," upon a xylophone with bullets fired from a repeating rifle.

Verbeck's appearance in this city has caused a great deal of comment in the local circles. Through some misunderstanding he was advertised as the original Verbeck, who is as famous in Europe as Harman is in this country. The older Verbeck is at present in Brussels, and is said to have practically retired from the field of conjurers. The young man who appeared in the Casino yesterday is his son, who has appeared in this country before, but never in public in this city. He has inherited much of his father's ability in prestidigitations, but does not claim to be a cleverer, and his illustrious sire has been asserted that the younger Verbeck is travelling on his father's reputation. He disclaims that allegation, and says he is striving to build up a name for himself, finding solely upon his own ability.

ARMS FOR A DOMINION SHIP.
The Quadra to Be Added to the Fleet of Fishery Cruisers.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 17.—Strong representations have been made to the Government of the necessity for a revenue cutter in British Columbia waters for the prevention of smuggling and the protection of valuable fisheries owned by the Dominion, and when the Dominion steamer Quadra goes into commission in the Spring it is expected she will be fitted out as one of the fishery cruisers.

A short time ago cutlasses and Hotchkiss rifles were sent out by the department here, and the crew are to be instructed in their use. Besides this, a nine-pounder rifle muzzle-loading gun is to be mounted on a pivot on the Quadra's deck. Hitherto in British Columbia waters there has not been anything in the shape of an armed vessel for use when the warships were away from port.

GUESTS AWED BY HER RED WRAPPER.

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equally divided. The supporters of the Doctor, headed by General Jenks, counsel for the aggrieved husband, sat on the left side of the room, while on the right were the counsel of Mrs. Gunning, the principal, and her friends. In the short rests in the proceedings each side glared at the other. The women predominated in a ratio of seven to one.

STALE BREAD AS ORNAMENTS.
Louisa Augusta Gunning was the first witness called. "Gussie," as she is called by her friends, is the Doctor's oldest daughter, nineteen years old. She is pretty, slender, has regular features, red hair and a clear complexion that flushed delicately while she testified. Her answers were made quickly and intelligently. General Jenks asked her about the "stale bread" incident.

"I had been away," said the witness, "and when I returned home I found loaves of stale bread distributed about the house. There was a loaf on the family Bible, one hanging on the Scripture text on the wall, and others were on the mantelpieces and tables. I asked mamma what they were put there for, and she said she thought they would use them as ornaments. The bread stayed that way for a week."

After repeating the story of a quarrel between the Doctor and his wife over her sister Marion's hat, which arose because the Doctor did not think a white hat was becoming to Marion's red hair, she was asked by General Jenks if Mrs. Gunning ever struck her in Brooklyn. She replied "Yes," whereupon Mrs. Gunning, who sat a few feet from the General, said something in a low voice.

DID NOT GO TO NYACK.
"Please don't say that," said General Jenks, turning to Mrs. Gunning, and the witness then said that once the Doctor told her he would take her on a trip to Nyack. Mrs. Gunning said that if the witness should attempt to go she (Mrs. Gunning) would hit her.

Then Mrs. Gunning did strike her in the face, and scratched her and pulled her hair. She did not go to Nyack; she went to bed. At various times Mrs. Gunning had called her a "red devil" and other names equally complimentary.

Once she had hit the witness on her hand with the heel of a slipper, which Mrs. Gunning had taken off for that purpose. Her stepmother said she was impudent in replying to a question why witness was late in returning home from school. The children were not allowed to go in at the front door of the house, but were compelled to use the back stairs. When they disobeyed this rule they were punished by being compelled to run up and down the stairs fifteen or twenty times rapidly.

Mrs. Gunning remembered one time when Mrs. Gunning used a riding whip to punish Marion, who was seven years old at the time. Marion and Mrs. Gunning were upstairs in a bedroom, and on Marion's crying aloud the witness ran to the room and found Marion in her night dress on a bed, her head covered by a pillow, while Mrs. Gunning had her knees on the child

to keep her down. There were frequent disruptions in the Lafayette avenue home in 1894.

APPEARED IN A RED WRAPPER.
The witness described several tiffs between Mrs. Gunning and the doctor, at ready testified to by both complainant and defendant. Then followed a graphic account of a misalliance given by the Misses Gunning. In preparing for the affair Louise and her sister Grace fixed up the house a little while the stepmother was out.

"When mamma came home in the evening," said the witness blushing, "and saw how we had swept the parlor and changed some of the things, she said, 'I'm mistress here,' and changed the things back. Then she went upstairs. Six gentlemen had come in to sing, and we were all standing around the piano when mamma appeared on the landing directly in front of the parlor dressed in a bright red wrapper with a black collar, and holding a lighted candle."

"Tears came to the eyes of the fair witness at the recollection of that trying moment. "She said not a word, but stood there awhile. Then she went downstairs, and in a few moments reappeared on the same landing, holding in her hand a silver waiter, on which was some nut cake which we had made for the company, and after standing there some minutes she went upstairs to her room."

MADE THE DOCTOR LAUGH.
Miss Gunning, in answering a question by General Jenks, said:

"Why, one morning mamma came to our room to wake Marion. Mamma got mad because Marion was a little slow, and threatened her. I told her not to dare to hit Marion, and she yelled at me: 'What have you got to do with it, you flat-chested arrangement!'"

The doctor and his friends laughed, and Mrs. Gunning had to laugh, too, but continued to tell how her mother once bombarded her brother Harry with dishes.

"Harry came in one day a little late, and mamma wouldn't give him any lunch nor let us cook any. He went into the kitchen and got some potatoes, and was chopping them up in a bowl, when mamma came downstairs and into the room, and because he did not mind her injunction to stop she took from the closet some plates and threw two or three at him, but he dodged them. He walked toward her; she retreated to the hall, where he attempted to take the plates from her. She dropped them to the floor and ran upstairs to the front door, which she opened, and called: 'Help, help, help!' I ran up and closed the door, and mamma went to her room on the second floor, where she called aloud: 'God help me!' several times."

HER LETTER DISAPPEARED.

On another occasion, she said, when there was a disturbance in the family household, Mrs. Gunning rushed to the front door, and, at the top of her voice, called for "help." Three men ran into the house, one of whom was the postman of that district. Mrs. Gunning dropped to the floor, crying. The postman had the audacity to inform Mrs. Gunning that God would not help her if she acted that way, and she wilted and went upstairs. Mr. Jenks mentioned a letter in which Dr. Gunning had written to the witness, referring to domestic troubles.

"After I received the letter from papa," said Miss Gunning, "I put it in my trunk. That's the last I ever saw of it."

"Didn't your mother ask you to help ad-

just the affairs of the family?" asked Lawyer Tenney, on cross-examination. "Didn't she really want things settled amicably?"

"Yes, in her way. She wanted to be boss."

While Mr. Tenney was questioning Miss Gunning General Jenks jumped to his feet and asked leave to stop the proceedings for a moment. "Your Honor," he said, "I object to persons in the audience making audible comments. There are some here who cry 'Ahi ah!' or 'Pshaw! pshaw!' so loud that I can hear them. I ask you to stop them." Judge Van Wyck looked severe. One or two women on the front seats on Mrs. Gunning's side blushed and looked confused.

TOOK THE BEDCLOTHES AWAY.
The witness then testified that she was surprised, as she cast her mind back to look the bedclothes from her and she got others. It was not until Deacon Hague had been called in by Dr. Gunning that quiet was restored.

After recess Miss Gunning was recalled by Mr. Tenney. The witness said she heard Mrs. Gunning tell her father that she would ruin him in his business and with his people. Witness said her mother never, to her personal knowledge, prepared meals but once or twice. Once was on a Thanksgiving day, when Mrs. Gunning said: "I'll have affairs my own way."

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Mr. Moran Led the Cotillon.
The final meeting this year of the dancing class organized by Mrs. Frank Wesson, Mrs. Hoffman Miller and Mrs. Humphreys was held last evening at Sherry's and was well attended by members of the young married set. The cotillon was led by Mr. Anson Moran. Some charming favors were provided, including satin card cases, calendars and cigar holders.

Icebergs Five Miles Long.
London, Feb. 17.—The British bark Aldgirth, Captain McConnell, from Portland, Oregon, September 22, which arrived at Queenstown today, reports that on December 9, in latitude 56 south, longitude 72 west, she passed two icebergs five miles long and five hundred feet high, and on the following day sighted eight other bergs from one to five miles long.

Insurgents Changing Positions.
Madrid, Feb. 17.—A dispatch from Havana to the Imparcial says that the rebel forces are changing positions, Gomez working his way westward and Mtroz marching eastward. General Weyler is indifferent to their movements, intending to attack the rebels everywhere.

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DETECTIVE BUREAU IS IN DESPAIR.

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Their plan of work was entirely different, however. "From the appearance of the first safe opened, I should judge the men were provided with a dog. This apparatus consists of a steel frame which can be hung over the combination and screwed to the door of a safe. A hook is then bored over the bolt, holding the carrying bar and a punch inserted. This is pushed further and further in, by means of an endless screw, and finally forces the back of the safe open. Such an instrument would be successful on better safes than those found in Dennett's restaurant. It is only of use, however, on fire-proof safes.

"A burglar-proof safe is not fire proof, but it would take an expert forty-eight hours to get into it. I opened one not long ago, and had to work at it two days, and even then I used a steam drill."

"Such work as was done in Dennett's restaurant is child's play for a man who knows his business."

DENNETT HAD EMPLOYED CONVICTS.
For a time the police believed that some of the waiters in the restaurant might know something of the robbery. They were led to this belief by the fact that Mr. Dennett has at times given employment to ex-convicts whom he believed wanted to reform. There are none employed there now, Manager Swain says.

After a thorough examination, the police gave up the "inside" theory. They changed their minds because they found the thieves had taken much needless risk in going from the third story to the second. At the bottom of the stairs there were a locked door fitted with a large panel of glass. This glass they carefully cut out, and then crawled through the hole. In doing this work they were in full view of persons on the street, and in constant danger of detection.

Had they been familiar with the building they would, the police say, have taken the back stairs, where there were no locked doors and where they could not have been seen.

So far the only men in trouble on account of the robbery are not the thieves, but the police. Yesterday Captain Thompson, of the Oak Street Station, preferred charges against Patrolmen Finley, Play and McKenna. These men were on duty during the twenty-four hours in which the robbery was committed, and were supposed to watch the place all night. In the morning they escaped from the back door of the restaurant. Captain Thompson says the policemen should have found that the back door had been left unlocked.

BURGLARS RIFLED FLATS,
Two in the Same House Visited by Experts, Who Got Away with Their Plunder in Safety.

When William Dean returned to the East Eighty-eighth Street Police Station last Saturday, after having been promoted to the captaincy of that precinct, he found two bold daylight burglaries that had been committed in his bailiwick the day before, calling for his detective skill. The victims were Robert Williams and John Davis, who occupy flats on the second floor of No. 52 East Eighty-eighth street.

Mrs. Williams and her little boy left the flat after locking it, as she thought, securely on Friday evening about 5 o'clock to go to the grocery. She says she was not absent more than twenty minutes. When she returned she found the door leading to the private hallway and the kitchen door wide open. As soon as she stepped inside she saw evidence of burglars and shouted for help. Most of the tenants of the big flat house docked to her aid. Among the articles missed were a diamond scarf pin, two breastpins and a pair of solitaire studs. A cash box, which had contained a small sum of money, was filled.

While the tenants were in an uproar Mrs. Davis, who lives in the rear of the Williams' family, came in. Her door, too, was open. Despite the new locks which she had had carved in by a locksmith, she missed a diamond ring, three gold rings, a pair of diamond ear rings, a gold watch and chain, two brooch pins and two lockets.

On Friday night burglars jimmied open the flat house at No. 54 East Eighty-eighth street, but were so scared by the noise they got anything. The residents in the neighborhood of Eighty-eighth street and Madison avenue were all over the place, and the burglaries. They think they haven't enough policemen, or else the policemen they have are not vigilant enough.

STORAGE BOATS PROPOSED
Produce Exchange Considering the Building of a Fleet to Lessen Charges for Handling Grain.

A project is being considered by members of the Produce Exchange for the construction of a fleet of canal boats of large tonnage for the purpose of storing grain at railroad car rates. The present capacity of boats is 8,000 bushels. It is proposed to increase this to 12,000 or 15,000 bushels.

The railroads charge a storage rate of one-quarter of a cent per bushel for ten days. Canal boats now charge nothing for three days' storage and \$10 per day per bushel thereafter. Terminal charges for loading and unloading at canal boat elevators and storage is 24 cents per bushel.

As the cost of lifting grain from canal boats direct to steamers for export is 1 cent per bushel, the construction of larger boats and reduction of storage to one-quarter cent per bushel will enable canal boatmen to compete with the railroads, which is considerably smaller than that now charged by the railroads.

PORTE YIELDS TO TERRELL.
Action Suspended in the Case of Mr. Knapp, the American Missionary.

Constantinople, Feb. 17.—The Porte has agreed to comply with the request made by United States Minister Terrell to suspend action in the case of Mr. Knapp, the American missionary, whose arrest was attempted recently at Bitlis, upon charges of sedition, until Mr. Knapp arrives in Constantinople.

Mr. Knapp, with his wife and three other ladies, will leave Bitlis for this city as soon as the snow permits.

Filibusters in Eastern Waters.
New Bedford, Mass., Feb. 17.—Information has been received from Cutty Hunk, the most western of the Elizabeth Islands, that a large steamer, believed to be fitted out for a filibustering expedition, was anchored in Vineyard Sound all day Wednesday, the 12th. During that day four hundred school boys and three hundred and anchored beside the steamer. The next day both vessels disappeared.

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